

## WHY DID GOD LIMIT SEX TO MARRIAGE?

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Anyone who has any understanding of the Bible knows that God has limited the sexual relationship to one man and one woman within marriage. Why did He do that?

Our world seems to have gone sex-mad. Christians of every age are influenced to immorality. The temptation is strong. Many Christians know God has said "No" but they have no idea why. Of course, obedience doesn't need reasons. The fact that God has said, "In marriage only" is enough; however, reasons help us to defend our faith and show the wisdom of God.

As with all things, God is the center. God designed the marriage relationship, including sex, as picture of the intimate care He has for the Church in general and Christians as individuals. It portrays the faithfulness, commitment, and single-mindedness of God to His people i.e. Christians. It also expresses the intense joy, fulfillment, and satisfaction that is to be found in God alone.

Immorality, then gives false testimony to the character of God. It pictures Him as a selfish Being using and abusing people for His own pleasure. It says God is unfaithful and not to be trusted. It is the teaching of false religions which proclaim that "all paths lead to God." God does not flirt or go after others. There is only one way to God - Jesus Christ. Satan delights in immorality for it slanders Who God is.

Marriage is for two people of the opposite sex who are united in God for a purpose. Some feel that having children is the main reason for marriage and sex. It is an important purpose, true, but it is not the only purpose. God has a purpose for every couple. They are to be focused on the purposes of God to expand the Kingdom of God. Sex is an expression of that unity. Sex outside of the marriage breaks that unity and destroys the purpose of God for the couple. It is one of Satan's ways of slowing down the expansion the Kingdom of God.

Side note: One of the important reasons why people of all ages give in to temptations, suffer from depression, and/or are "bored" is because they have not discovered God's purpose for them in life. People with purpose are better able to resist temptation and live happy, healthy lives.

Keeping sex in marriage teaches self-control. Being able to control one's actions and focus them is one of the keys to successful living. Controlling one's sex drive and focusing it on one's spouse alone teaches control in every area of life. People with no or little self-control self-destruct. Unfortunately, they not only hurt themselves but also much damage is done to many innocent lives.

Limiting sex to marriage leads to unselfish maturity. People who are immoral are seeking only to satisfy themselves. Sex in marriage is intended to teach the partners on how to focus on each other. They are to seek the benefit and fulfillment of the other person above their own. It is an important way of seeking to bring the other person to their highest and best God has for them. This is not to say that all marriages act like this. There are selfish, immature marriages. What we are looking at is the ideal that God has for us. Sex may not reach the ideal within marriage but it will never reach the ideal outside of marriage.

Keeping sex within marriage creates the potential to provide a strong and stable home in which children can grow up. God loves children and knows they need a stable environment to feel secure and to mature. When they have confidence that Mom and Dad love and are committed to each other, then they can face the storms in their lives from a firm foundation. Immorality breaks this security and introduces fear and instability.

The family unit provides a training center for children from the moment they are born. It teaches not only by words but also by example. Children need to see the example of father and mother totally committed to loving and supporting each other. It pictures to the child the committed loving care of God. God's desire is that children grow up in loving homes and never have to personally experience the depths of sin. It is God's will that loving Christian homes reproduce themselves in the next generation and the next etc. until the world is filled with healthy, loving homes serving God.

Satan, of course, does not like this plan and seeks to destroy it by twisting sex from a good thing to an evil thing.

The proper experience of sex within marriage is part of God's plan in preparing us for eternity. No matter how long we live on this planet it is only a blink of the eye compared with living forever in the presence of God after death. Everything in this life is designed to train and prepare us for the greatness of our life after death. Properly controlling and using sex is one aspect of our training. It develops character [or else reveals character defects which need to be dwelt with]. Our actions and reactions around this intense emotional and physical experience bring many things to the surface.

Finally, limiting sex to marriage increases the partner's enjoyment of each other. They can give themselves completely, lovingly, and with total confidence to the other person. In a healthy relationship there is no fear of abandonment or rejection. Unfortunately, even many marriages do not reach this level but we should all be working toward it. A husband who selfishly requires sex from his wife leaves her feeling abused and taken advantage of. Sex is only one part of a total caring relationship.

Side note: The Bible never instructs us to fight sexual temptation. The command is: FLEE. Run. Don't not try to argue with it. Don't try to reason with it. Don't think you are strong. RUN. Do everything you can to avoid it. Look for God's way of escape. It will always be there.

## STUDY GUIDE FOR WHY DID GOD LIMIT SEX TO MARRIAGE?

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Read through the above named report and answer the following questions.

1. God has limited the \_\_\_\_\_ relationship to one man and one woman with marriage.

2. \_\_\_\_\_ doesn't need reasons.

And Samuel said, Hath the LORD as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, as in obeying the voice of the LORD? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, and to hearken than the fat of rams." 1 Sam. 15:33

Obedience is one of the keys of a successful life. Saul [from the above story] started well, but he had not learned obedience. When he thought he had a better plan, he followed it - to his own destruction. When we stand before Jesus He is not going to ask us what great things we accomplished, He is only going to ask if we did what He told us to. Matt. 7:21-23

3. God is the \_\_\_\_\_.

This is called Theocentric [Theo - God, centric - center]. Everything in life revolves around God. He is life itself. Everything was created by Him and for Him and runs according to His will. It is when we fall for humanism [man-centered] that life falls apart. We study this in Life Line and Christian Social Theory.

4. Who designed sex? God or the Devil? \_\_\_\_\_

There is no such thing as original evil. Everything was created good and pure. All the Devil can do is take something good and pervert it into something evil. He can twist and distort, but only God can create.

5. Sex in marriage portrays the faithfulness, commitment, and \_\_\_\_\_ - mindedness of God for His people.
6. Immorality pictures God as a \_\_\_\_\_ Being using and abusing people for His own pleasure.
7. Marriage is for two people of the \_\_\_\_\_ sex who are united in God for a purpose.

While caring and loving our children is important, we should not allow that love to surpass our love for our spouse. The husband and wife relationship is the primary human relationship. Husband and wife should be spending time together alone building relationship. Many couples after they are married establish a regular “date” night. Even if finances are low, inexpensive or free fun activities can be found.

8. God has a \_\_\_\_\_ for every couple.
9. People with purpose are better able to resist \_\_\_\_\_ and live happy, healthy lives.
10. Keeping sex in marriage teaches \_\_\_\_\_.

We live [in the West] in a society that wants everything now. Everything is instant. If I want something I must have it now. There is little understanding of time, patience and hard work. If I can't afford what I want I pull out the Visa or get a loan. The idea of saving and waiting is alien in our fast-paced society. But solid life is built slowly on the right foundation.

11. People with no or little self-control \_\_\_\_\_.

The dangers of pornography are becoming better known. It is being discovered that not only does it ruin the lives of those engaged in it as well as the “models” and lead to a disrespect of women in general, but also it can lead to other violent behaviors including [cannibalism](#).

12. Limiting sex to marriage leads to \_\_\_\_\_ maturity.
13. Keeping sex within marriage creates to potential to provide a strong and stable \_\_\_\_\_ in which children can grow up.

Only time will tell of the long term devastation that will come to children and society as a result of the growing acceptance of “gay” marriage.

14. Immorality breaks this \_\_\_\_\_ and introduces fear and instability.
15. God's desire is that children grow up in \_\_\_\_\_ [homes](#) and never have to personally experience the depths of sin.

God’s command to Adam and Eve was to multiply and fill the earth with Godly people [Gen. 1:28]. After sin came in, this command is basically fulfilled in two ways: 1. Training your own children to be Godly and leading them to a personal knowledge of Jesus as Lord and Saviour at an early age, and 2. Winning people from outside the Christian community for Jesus.

16. Everything in this \_\_\_\_\_ is designed to train and prepare us for the greatness of our life after death.
17. Controlling the sex drive develops or reveals \_\_\_\_\_.
18. Limiting sex to marriage \_\_\_\_\_ the partner's enjoyment of each other.

The pleasures of sin are short term. Immoral relationships may produce an emotional high and excitement similar to taking drugs, but it is a temporary and unnatural “high.” Sooner or later there will be an emotional if not physical crash. Only in a God-approval marriage relationship can sex build enjoyment for the long term without any negative side effects.

19. Sex is only one part of a total caring \_\_\_\_\_.

20. The Bible never instructs us to fight sexual temptation. The command is: \_\_\_\_\_.

## ANSWER KEY FOR WHY DID GOD LIMIT SEX TO MARRIAGE?

1. sexual
2. Obedience
3. center
4. God
5. single
6. selfish
7. opposite
8. purpose
9. temptation
10. self-control
11. self-destruct
12. unselfish
13. home
14. security
15. loving
16. life
17. character
18. increases
19. relationship
20. FLEE